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Message Text

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41
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-10

ACDA-05 OMB-01 EB-07 /082 W
---------- 113420
R 141517Z OCT 75
FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4434
INFO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L BELGRADE 5416

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR RO YU
SUBJ: TROUBLE IN YUGOSLAV-ROMANIAN RELATIONS

REF: BELGRADE 5078

1. SUMMARY: HURRIED TRIP BY LCY SECRETARY DOLANC TO BUCHAREST AND LAST-MINUTE CANCELLATION OF CEAUSESCU'S VISIT TO BELGRADE HAS LED TO WIDE-SPREAD SPECULATION HERE THAT SOMETHING IS AMISS IN YUGOSLAV-ROMANIAN RELATIONS. END SUMMARY.

2. FOLLOWING VISITS IN PAST FEW WEEKS BY MANESCU AND BURTIKA, AND REGULAR REPORTS FROM YUGOSLAVS AND ROMANIANS THAT CEAUSESCU WOULD VISIT SOME TIME IN OCTOBER, FSFA ISSUED DIPLOMATIC NOTE OCT 9 ANNOUNCING THAT CEAUSESCU WOULD RECEIVE CHIEFS OF MISSION HERE ON OCT 14. HOWEVER, ON OCT 10 YUGOSLAV PRESS WAS INSTRUCTED NOT TO WRITE ANYTHING ABOUT TRIP (PLEASE PROTECT THIS INFORMATION). ON OCT 9 DOLANC FLEW OFF FOR UNSCHEDULED TALKS WITH CEAUCESCU. ON OCT 12 YUGOSLAV PRESS WAS TOLD VISIT POSTPONED--REASON BEING CEAUSESCU ANNOYANCE THAT TITO WOULD NOT RECEIVE HIM AT AIRPORT. ON OCT 13 ROMANIAN EMBASSY HERE CALLED TO SAY CEAUSESCU
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RECEPTION CANCELLED. ROMANIAN CONSUL TOLD EMBOFF

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OCT 14 THAT VISIT NEVER FIRM, CRITICIZED FSFA FOR
JUMPING GUN ON RECEPTION NOTIFICATION AND ASSERTED
VISIT WOULD TAKE PLACE AT LATER DATE.

3. JUST POSSIBLE GIVEN WELL KNOWN EGOS OF BOTH TITO
AND CEAUSESCU THAT AIRPORT PROTOCOL PROBLEM IS IMMEDIATE
CAUSE. HOWEVER, SPECULATION HERE REVOLVES AROUND TWO
OTHER THEMES. FIRST, WE NOTE
EAST BERLIN MEETING ON EUROPEAN COMMUNIST PARTY CONFERENCE
WAS COMPLETED SAME DAY DOLANC TOOK OFF FOR BUCHAREST. THIS PLUS
SELECTION OF PARTY FIGURE DOLANC RAISES POSSIBILITY
PROBLEM WAS EITHER YUGOSLAV OR ROMANIAN WILLINGNESS TO
COMPROMISE ON CONFERENCE DOCUMENT WHILE OTHER STILL
HOLDING OUT.

4. SECOND LINE OF SPECULATION CONCERNS CASE OF
VLADO DAPCEVIC (REFTEL). VARIATIONS HERE RANGE FROM
ROMANIANS HAVE HIM AND WILL NOT GIVE UP TO YUGOSLAVS,
YUGOSLAVS HAVE HIM IN THEIR BUCHAREST EMBASSY (WHICH
SUPPOSEDLY 100 METERS FROM HOTEL DAPCEVIC STAYED IN),
YUGOSLAVS SPIRITED HIM AWAY WITH OR WITHOUT ROMANIAN
COOPERATION. IT CONCEIVABLE THAT YUGOSLAVS WOULD LIKE
OR ACTUALLY INTEND TO TRY DAPCEVIC IN OPEN COMINFORMIST TRIAL
SUPPOSED TO BEGIN THIS MONTH. OBVIOUS THAT ANY OF
THESE VARIATIONS COULD CAUSE ROMANIANS PROBLEMS WITH
SOVIETS AND CREATE HEAT BETWEEN ROMANIANS AND
YUGOSLAVS.

5. COMMENT: WHILE ONLY "SOLID" CONCLUSION WE CAN
REACH IS THAT THERE IS SOME PROBLEM IN YUGOSLAV-ROMANIAN
RELATIONS, WE TEND DISCOUNT SPECULATION THAT DAPCEVIC
IS CAUSE AND BELIEVE ECPC MORE LIKELY SOURCE OF TROUBLE.
ROMANIAN CONSUL ADAMANT THAT DAPCEVIC NOT CAUSE FOR
POSTPONEMENT. AND MOVEMENT AT EAST BERLIN CONFERENCE MAY
HAVE CAUGHT ROMANIANS AND YUGOSLAVS WITHOUT A COMMON
FRONT.
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